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E2C922UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Extension Service  
Washington 25, D. C.

July 18, 1947

For administrative use only

TO ALL STATE DIRECTORS OF EXTENSION:

Subject: Current Farm Labor News - #19

Labor Branch Activities--Telephone calls are received daily from one or more States inquiring about the withdrawal of foreign workers on the closing of a federal camp for migratory workers by the Labor Branch. Such curtailments are purely a matter of arithmetic--just a part of the necessary action to balance activities and funds. Budget estimate for the entire farm labor program for the last six months of the year, was \$10,000,000. Only \$5,000,000 was appropriated.

The Labor Branch should not be blamed for curtailment of activities in line with appropriations. It cannot do otherwise. Neither should the Extension Service permit itself to be maneuvered into a position where it can be blamed for not taking over the activity being dropped by the Labor Branch. Section 2 funds, even if available, could not be used to finance the foreign labor program or to operate federally owned farm labor camps.

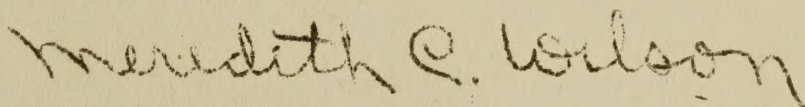
Due to careful planning, funds are available to enable State Extension Services to continue throughout 1947, a satisfactory domestic labor program. The Extension Service should endeavor in every way possible to step-up the domestic program to fill the gaps resulting from the inevitable reduction in the foreign labor program.

Permanent Farm Labor Legislation--The question of new permanent farm labor legislation remains confused with likelihood of action by the present session of Congress rapidly diminishing as the proposed adjournment date (July 26) draws nearer. Lack of agreement on the part of the various farm groups sponsoring H. R. 3367 and S. 1334 has apparently been an important factor in holding up committee action. In the absence of positive action by the Congress, authority for the conduct of a farm placement service automatically reverts to the U. S. Employment Service, Department of Labor, under the Act entitled, "An Act for the establishment of a national employment system and for other purposes", approved June 6, 1933, (USC Title 29, Section 49b).

Request for a deficiency appropriation of \$1,743,000 to finance the farm placement service of the U.S.E.S. during the period January 1 to June 30, 1948, has been transmitted to the Congress.

Anything can still happen!

Yours very truly,

Meredith C. Wilson  
Deputy Director of Extension  
Farm Labor Program

cc: State supervisors



